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Title: Imperial Etiquette

Author: Yoshi Shimakaze  
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Etiquette at Court or in  
the Imperial Presence  
The following is applied  
to  
all subjects regardless of  
rank or title.

This guide is meant as a  
general outline as to how  
one should present  
themselves when in the  
Royal Presence. Most  
are common sense but we  
have included some  
historical ones as well.  
Members are free to  
make additional notes if  
they like. The object is  
to make our role playing  
as real as possible and  
thus bring a richness to  
the game that may  
otherwise be missing from  
other aspects of UO.

When court is in session  
(ie; guild meetings or  
other guild sponsored  
events) certain  
observances should be  
followed. We have listed  
a few here but there  
may be others that  
members would like to  
add.

1. All should bow upon the  
entrance of the Emperor  
or Empress. It is  
preferred that everyone  
be kneeling and then bow  
by touching their  
foreheads to the floor  
when the Emperor or  
Empress enter. This,  
however, is difficult due  
to the nature of the UO

system which does not permit kneeling or lying down.

Note: Visiting dignitaries, foreigners and others are not required to kneel. A bow From the waist is proper, however, a head nod is

2. When addressing the Emperor or Empress one must never make eye contact. The Emperor or Empress is considered by their people to be the divine in human form.

Generally one would not speak directly to the Emperor or Empress but rather to “The Voice of the Emperor or Empress” a person appointed by them to speak on their behalf or to translate.

3. Men should remove all hats or head coverings when approaching the Throne or the Royals.

No weapons, shields or other objects of battle should be in hand when at court unless assigned as Court Guard or Retainer.

All pets must be left outside any Royal building or any building occupied by the Emperor or Empress.

4. When walking with the Emperor or Empress always keep them on your right side. If both Royals are present walk a short distance behind.

5. Never touch the Royal person without their leave. Gifts should be handed to the Emperor or Empress’s Aides or Retainer or Lady in Waiting and never to the Royal person themselves.

6. Petitions for rank, promotion or other Empire business should be made through the proper

channels or during special “Audiences” when Court is in session.

7. Never correct, debate or otherwise engage in harsh conversation with any Royal when at Court or in a public setting. One may petition for a private audience should any personal business or grievance be addressed.

8. Never walk or ride in front of the Emperor or Empress unless attached to a Vanguard or Security detachment. If entering a strange building the Royal Herald, Court Guard or Captain of the Guard may enter before the Royals for the purpose of security or to announce the Royal presence.

9. When dinning in the Royal presence one must wait until the Emperor (if both Royals are present) or Empress (if she is presiding alone) has taken the first bite.

10. Neither Royal is permitted to ride or travel alone and must always be accompanied by at least one Retainer, House Guard or Lady in Waiting. It is the responsibility of the Captain of the House Guard, The Captain of Royal Retainers or The Empress’s First Lady to see that this law is enforced. If none of those is present then the task falls to any loyal subject available.

11. When traveling aboard the safety and comfort of the Royal Family is paramount and arrangement should be

made for lodging, meals and security of the Royal party when traveling, particularly in strange lands or wild countries.

As mentioned these are only guidelines and are subject to additions or changes as needed. It is suggested that members research this subject on their own and may make additional recommendations at any time.